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Dated: October 14, 2003

Signature: Richard LaCava

(Richard LaCava)

Docket No.: X2007.0063/P063  
(PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:  
Yoshihiro Hirano, et al.

Application No.: 09/591,239

Group Art Unit: 1714

Filed: June 9, 2000

Examiner: C. Shosho

For: METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING  
LIGNEOUS MATERIAL

### AMENDMENT/SUBMISSION

MS Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED  
OCT 22 2003  
TC 1700

Dear Sir:

### INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This is a response to the Office Action mailed May 13, 2003 in the above-identified application. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper.

**FEE CALCULATION**

Any additional fee required has been calculated as follows:

	Claims Remaining After Amendment	Highest Number Previously Paid	Number Extra Claims Present	Rate	Additional Fee
Total	6	- 20* =	0	x	0
Independent	1	- 3** =	0	x	0
First presentation of Multiple Dependent Claim(s) (if applicable)					
<b>TOTAL</b>					<b>0.00</b>

\*not less than 20

\*\* not less than 3

No additional fee is required.

In the event a fee is required or if any additional fee during the prosecution of this application is not paid, the Patent Office is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2215.

**CONTINGENT EXTENSION REQUEST**

If this communication is filed after the shortened statutory time period had elapsed and no separate Petition is enclosed, the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks is petitioned, under 37 CFR 1.136(a), to extend the time for filing a response to the outstanding Office Action by the number of months which will avoid abandonment under 37 CFR 1.135. The fee under 37 CFR 1.17 should be charged to our Deposit Account No. 50-2215.